

## **Symposium de l'AESA – résumé Poster**

**(seuls les communications en épidémiologie et analyse de risque seront acceptées)**

**Titre :** Clustered case-control study on leptospirosis in dogs and cats.

**Auteurs :** Isabelle Behaeghel<sup>1</sup>, Estelle Meroc<sup>1</sup>, Pascale Hansen<sup>2</sup>, Stefan Roels<sup>1</sup>,  
Patrick Butaye<sup>1</sup>, Els Goossens<sup>1</sup>.

**Affiliations :** 1. CODA-CERVA, Groeselenberg 99, 1180 Brussels.  
2. Laboratoires Collard, Bd de Froidmont 14, 4020 Liège.

### **Résumé : (250 mos maximum)**

In humid and warm climates, leptospirosis is a known zoonotic disease with clusters of high morbidity. The mortality rate depends on the pathogenicity of the serovars concerned and of a quick diagnosis and appropriated antibiotic treatment. Men and mammals can get infected by contact with infected hosts/tissue or with water contaminated with urine of hosts. The most reported hosts are rodents, followed by pets and food producing animals. The last five years, an alarming increase in laboratory-confirmed cases in dogs was noted in our laboratory, where the by the OIE recommended microscopic agglutination test is used. The current applied vaccination in dogs in Belgium does not protect against the encountered serogroups. Due to a lack of access to well defined banks of sera of companion animals, it is difficult to establish data on prevalence of leptospirosis in dogs and cats in Belgium. Therefore, we conducted a limited clustered case-control study in 95 dogs and 44 cats of which sera were sent to a private laboratory in Liege. The questions asked were: What's the percentage seropositive cases in dogs and cats with suspicion of abnormal blood values? Are there significant differences in blood values between seronegative and seropositive cases? We found 22 seropositive dogs (23.2%), and 1 seropositive cat (2.3%). The serogroup dominantly identified in the MAT test was Australis. No significant differences ( $p < 0.5$ ) in hematological and biochemical blood values were found between the seropositive and seronegative group of dogs; some trends are further discussed.